

Received this letter 12/7/05
So am returning 12/8/05



Dear Santa, (Mayor Lango)

We are from Waveland and our home was at:

██████████ Favre, Waveland 39576

We are now living at:

Address: ██████████ Major NW

City Albuquerque State New Mexico Zipcode 87107

Phone No. ██████████

Our family consists of:

Bruce ██████████ - husband

Ann ██████████ - wife

Our Katrina experience was:

see attached copy of email and copy of photos.

We watched the weather channel and knew Sunday night that the house was probably gone. But we hoped for the best. We saw no news of Waveland until Wednesday. The tears flowed and we not really stopped. On Sept 4th as we drove down 603, we stopped talking. We could only stare in horror. I (over)

Write something special that you would like Santa to bring you or your family:

We need nothing - give to people in tents
(Water/sewer on Favre)

Thank you Very much for contacting us.

we read Sun Herald and Gulf News everyday (via internet)
Have found a survivor from Diamondhead in Albuq,
of course many from New Orleans - but we just want to be
with people from MS,

Please use back or another sheet of paper, if you want to write more. We want to hear your story.

Return by November 30th to:

Mayor's Office, City of Waveland, P. O. Box 539, Waveland, MS 39576

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Just a summary.

could not bear to hold the camera to take pictures. It was just too sad. We crossed 90, barely recognizing our town. We found Coleman Ave & the War Memorial plaque. Then we had to literally count what we thought were streets, hoping we had found Forre. We recognized our home by the bamboo which was still standing. Miraculously, two porcelain ginger jar lamps were found buried in the mud. They lay in separated parts, but porcelain unbroken.

In October Bruce came back with a small camper trailer ^{and generator}. A church group helped him clear space in the driveway. He stayed almost a month, volunteering each day at the distribution center. ^{During that time} he drove 70 miles to Hattisburg to take his ^{pot} shower in 3 weeks & do laundry. Ann flew into Greerport in early November. Breaking through the clouds she saw the bright blue roof tarps sparkling across the landscape. ~~They~~ ^{They} ~~apparently~~ ^{apparently} hope that it would be better.

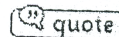
But we still feel ~~so~~ helpless. Another church group helped clear the lot with a Bobcat brought from Illinois or Kentucky. We are so grateful for all the help. We want to put our home back together. Thanks for remembering us.

Ann [redacted]
B [redacted]

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Message

Posted: Sat Sep 17, 2005 7:35 am Post subject: Message from Ann and Bruce
About Losing There Home



"Please forgive this message by email, but we have been a bit overwhelmed and this is easiest way to convey information to friends and family who have called and to those who might not have tv's.

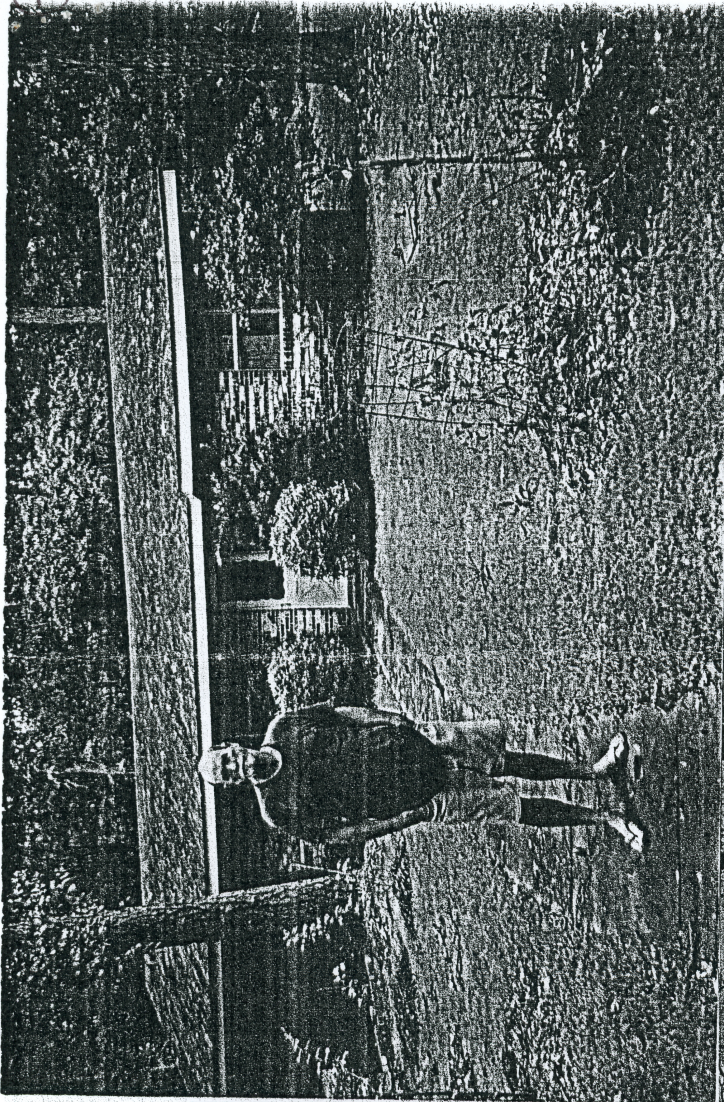
Our home in Waveland, MS was at the eye of hurricane Katrina. A high water mark of 46 feet was recorded. Needless to say the area, including our home was obliterated. Bruce and I drove to MS, with packed gas, food and donations on Saturday, the 6th day following the hurricane. We arrived on the coast on Sunday noontime. Bulldozers had pushed the debris so that we could drive to Beach Blvd, count driveways and find our property. There was nothing left. The town is gone, no city hall, post office, little shops, restaurants. A shell of what was the new library can be seen.

The pictures on tv do not show the extent of the devastation. The entire area, that is for the entire 20 miles or so of beachfront, and inward several miles, there is nothing. Trees have stripped of all foliage, broked and uprooted. There is a gray muck that covers everthing. It smells of decay. We can't speak for the other coastal areas, but assume it is the same. All neighbors are accounted for - but one, we believe is in TX. Bruce's stepsister and family got to Arkansas. We took the food and water we brought to a shelter and then stayed there. Since it was a senior center, it had a generator to keep the place cool. Food packets and bottled water had been delivered, but that was about it. Sleeping space was the floor. What blankets there were had been given by locals. As we left we passed convoys of National Guard, so assume more supplies are on the way. The only portapotties we saw were in what was the downtown area of Bay St. Louis, which was kind of strange as there are no people there, The water side of the town is no more and the road is in piles. The bridges east are all out and the only way into the area is from the north.

We're back in Alb now. No need to respond. Give to a charity, the Red Cross is good. Be kind and good to your neighbors. Thanks so much for being good and decent folks."

*This is the first message we sent
after visiting our home 9/4-9/5, 2005*

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Favre
July 2005
Sept 5, 2005

Favre Avenue 9/5/2005